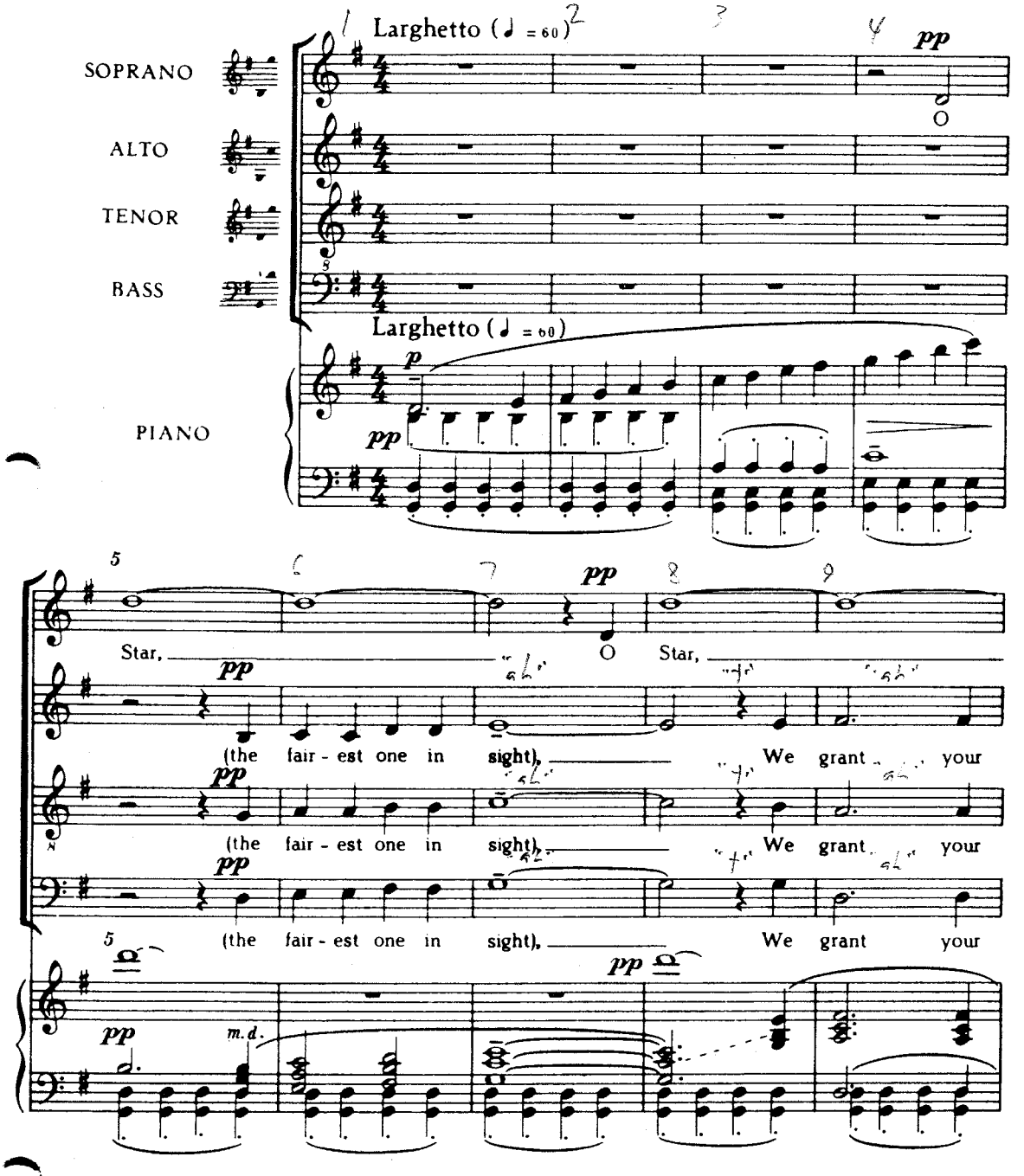
To the Townspeople of Amherst, Massachusetts, 1759-1959

Choose Something Like a Star*

for four-part chorus of mixed voices with piano or band or orchestra

Robert Frost Randall Thompson

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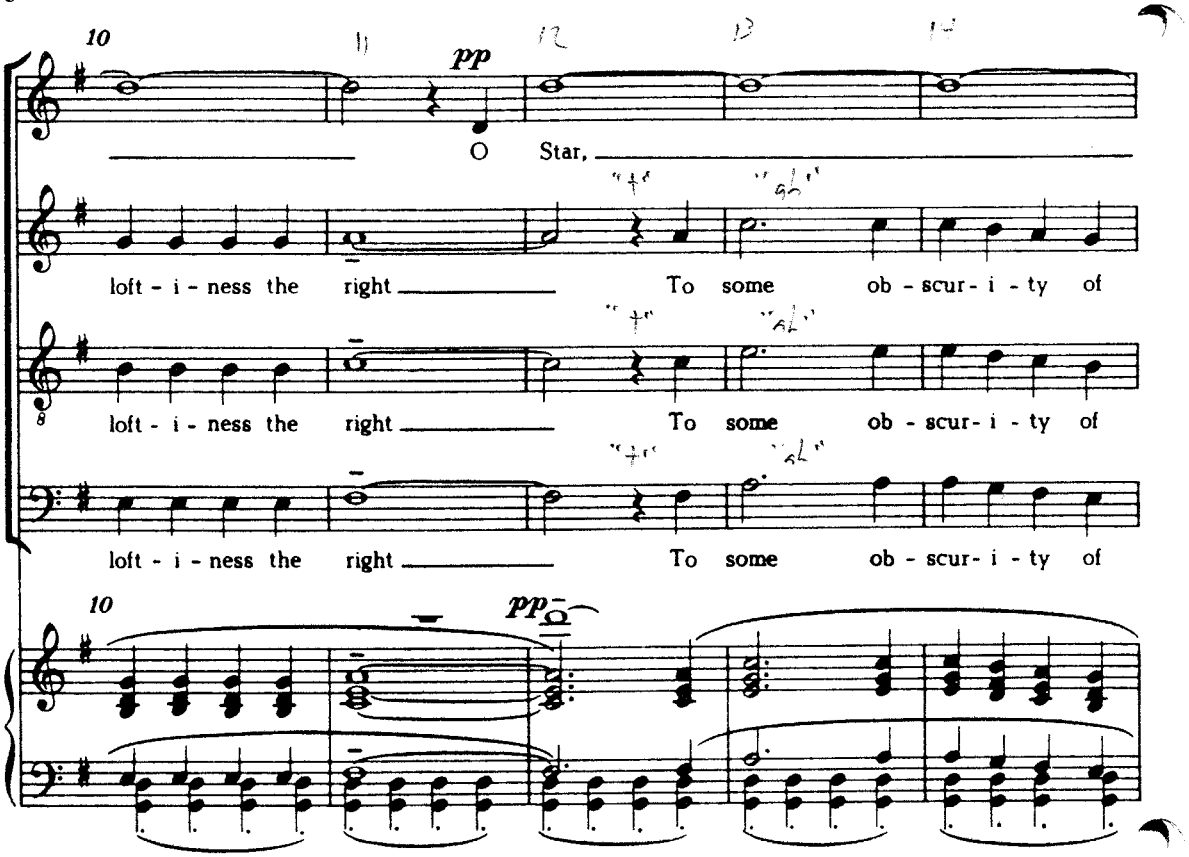
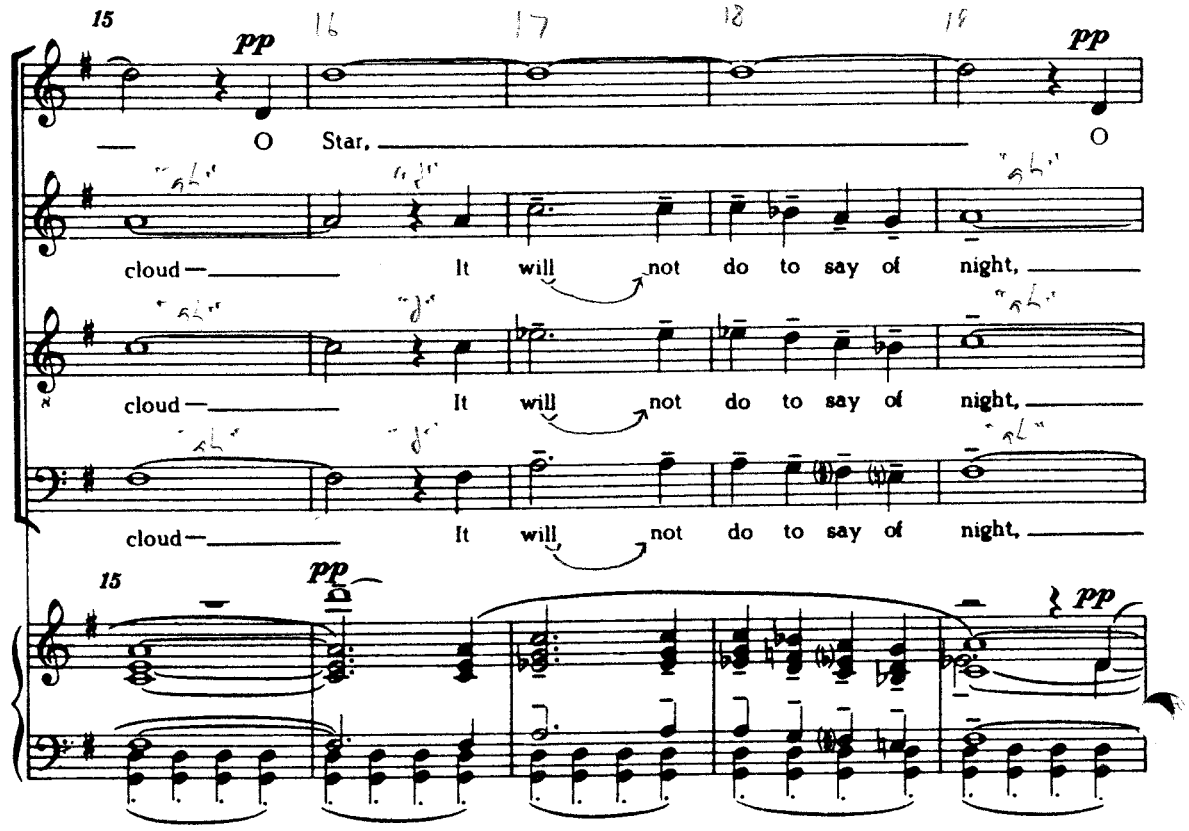
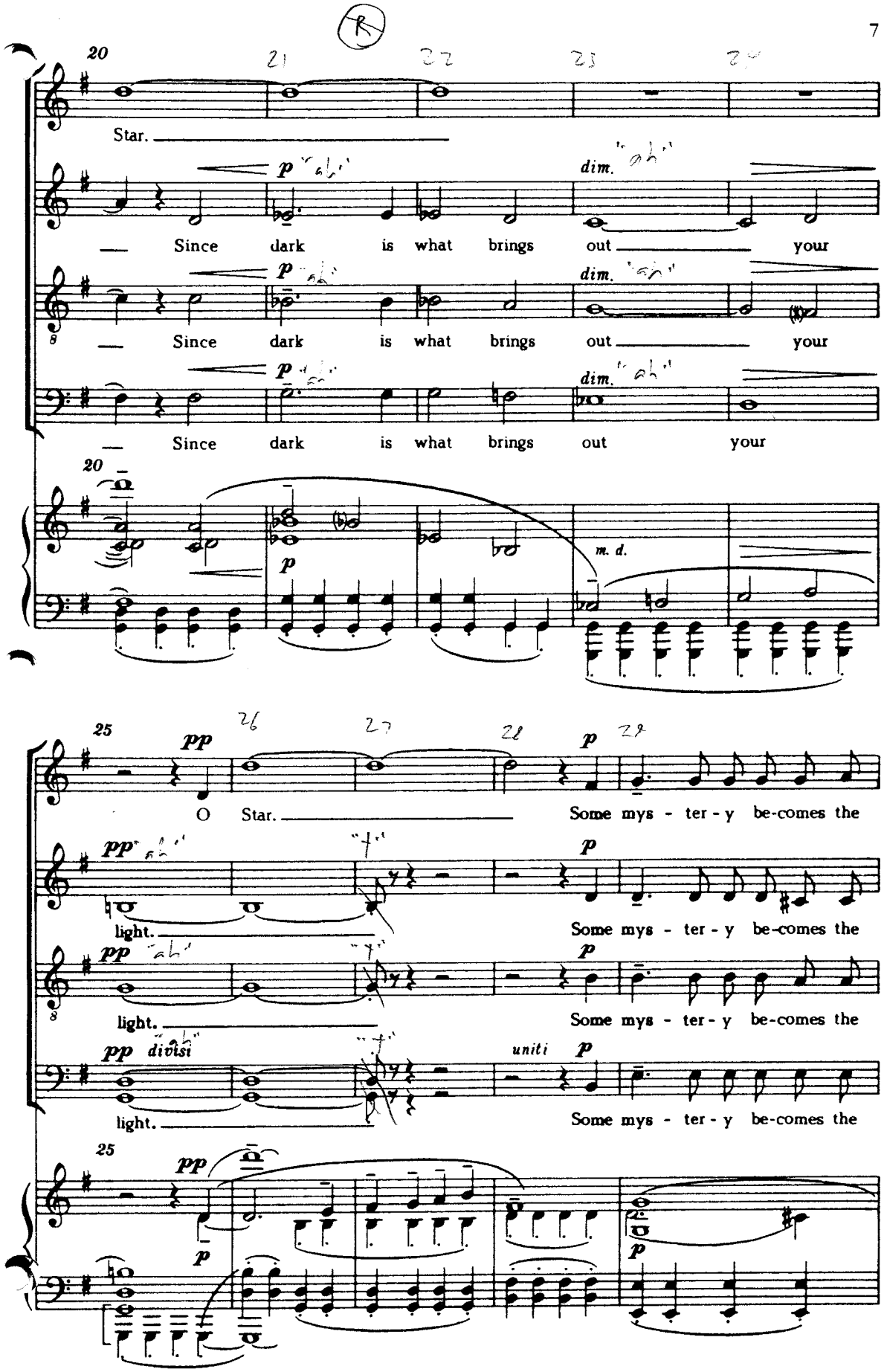
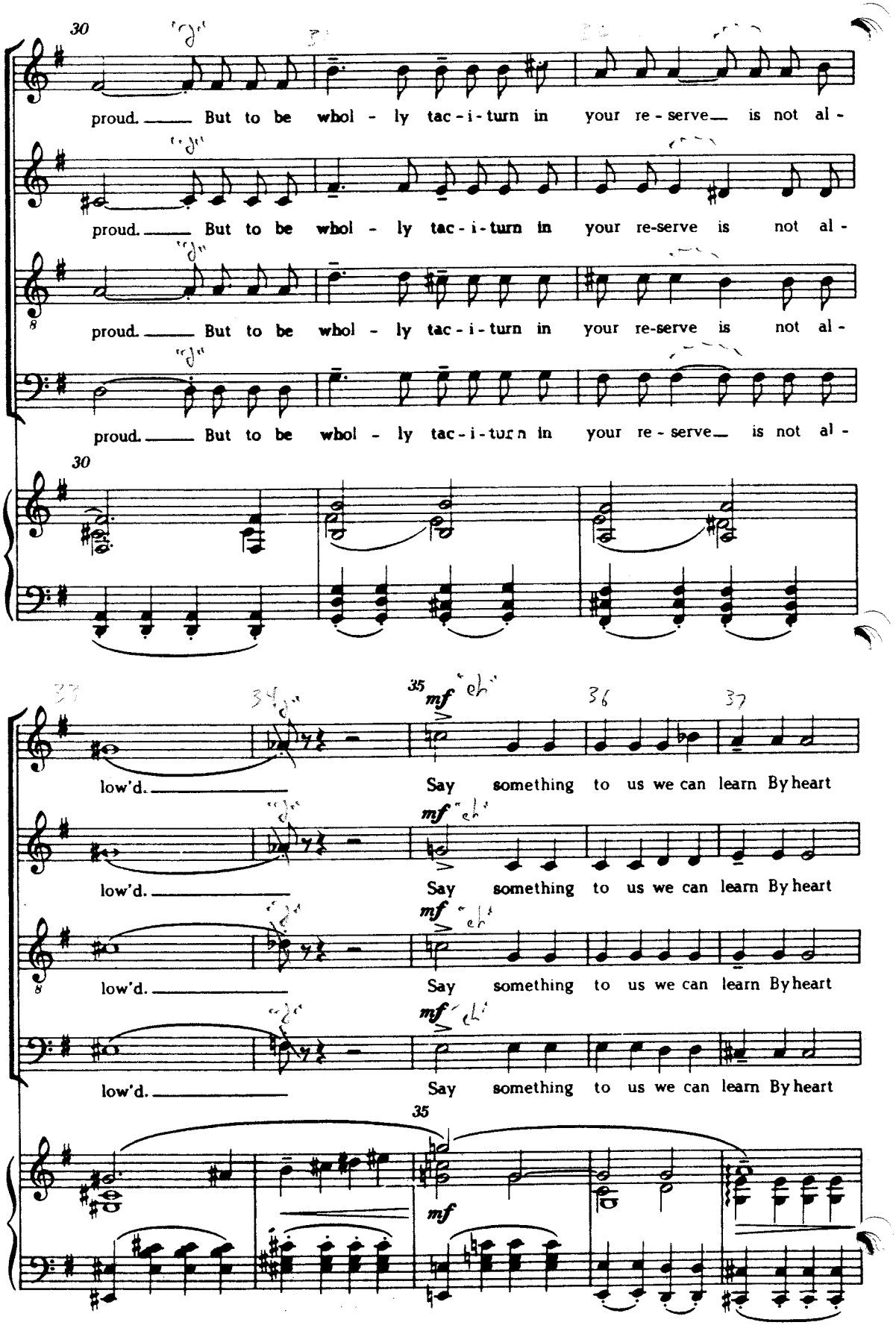
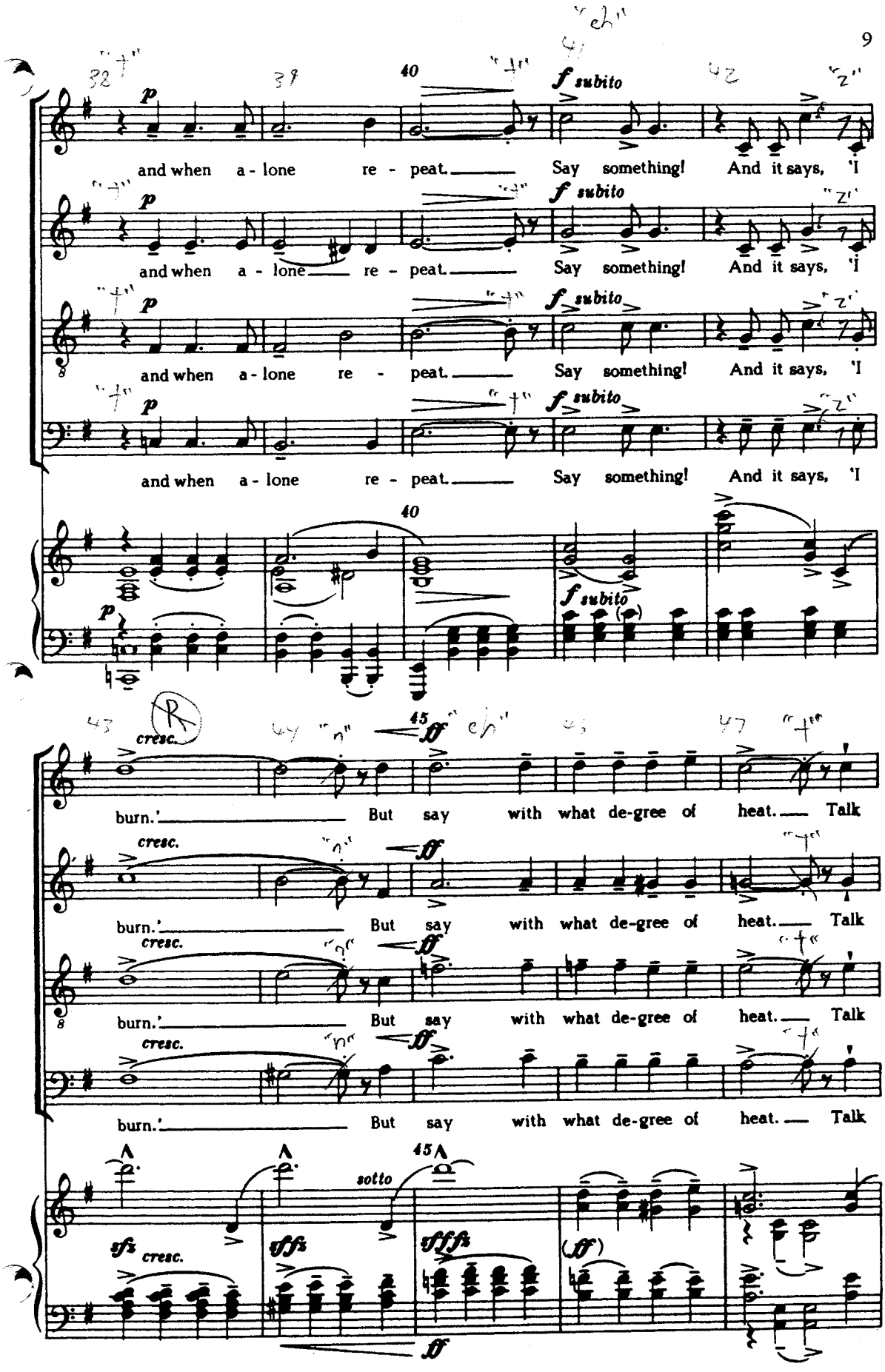
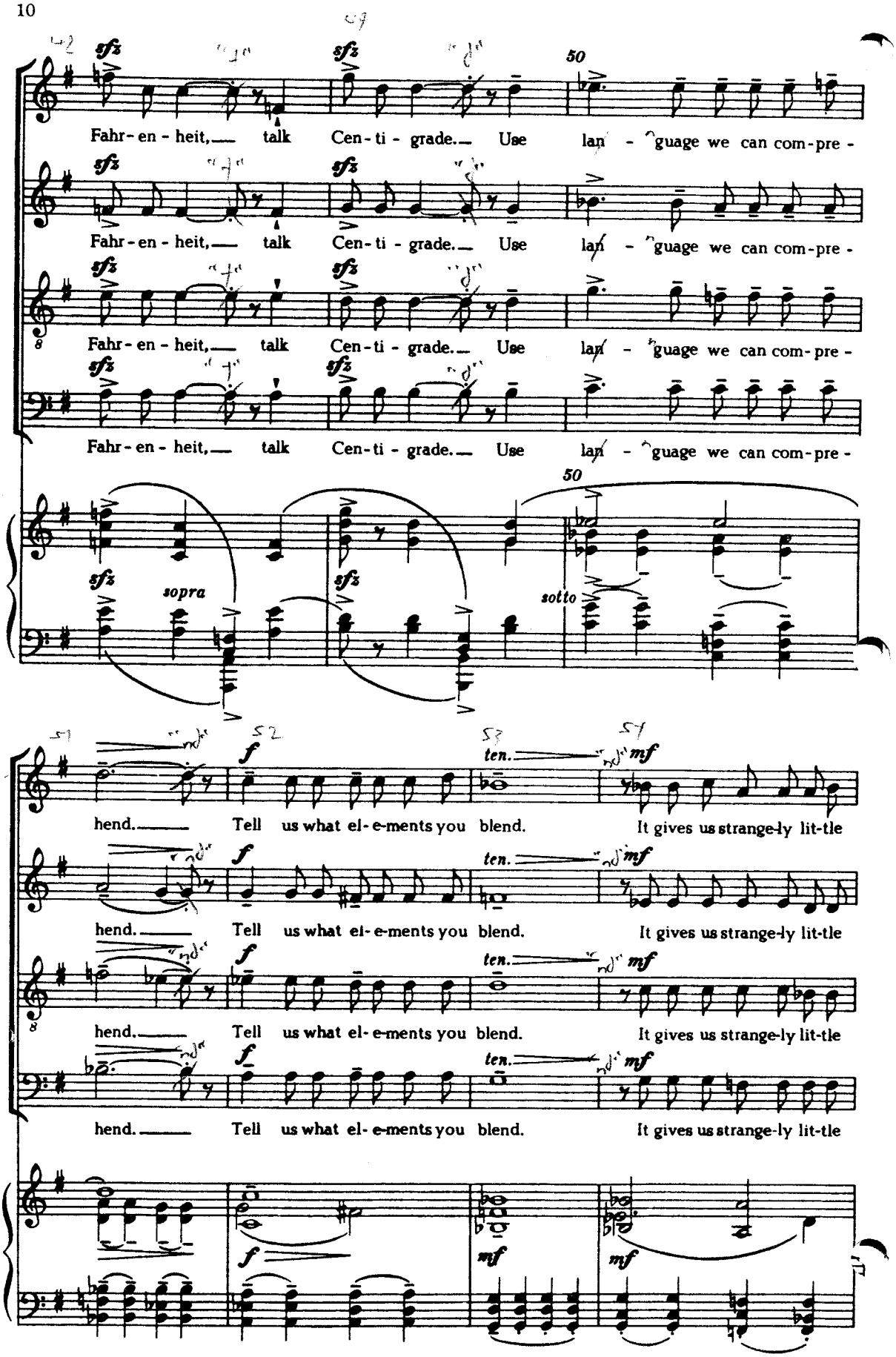
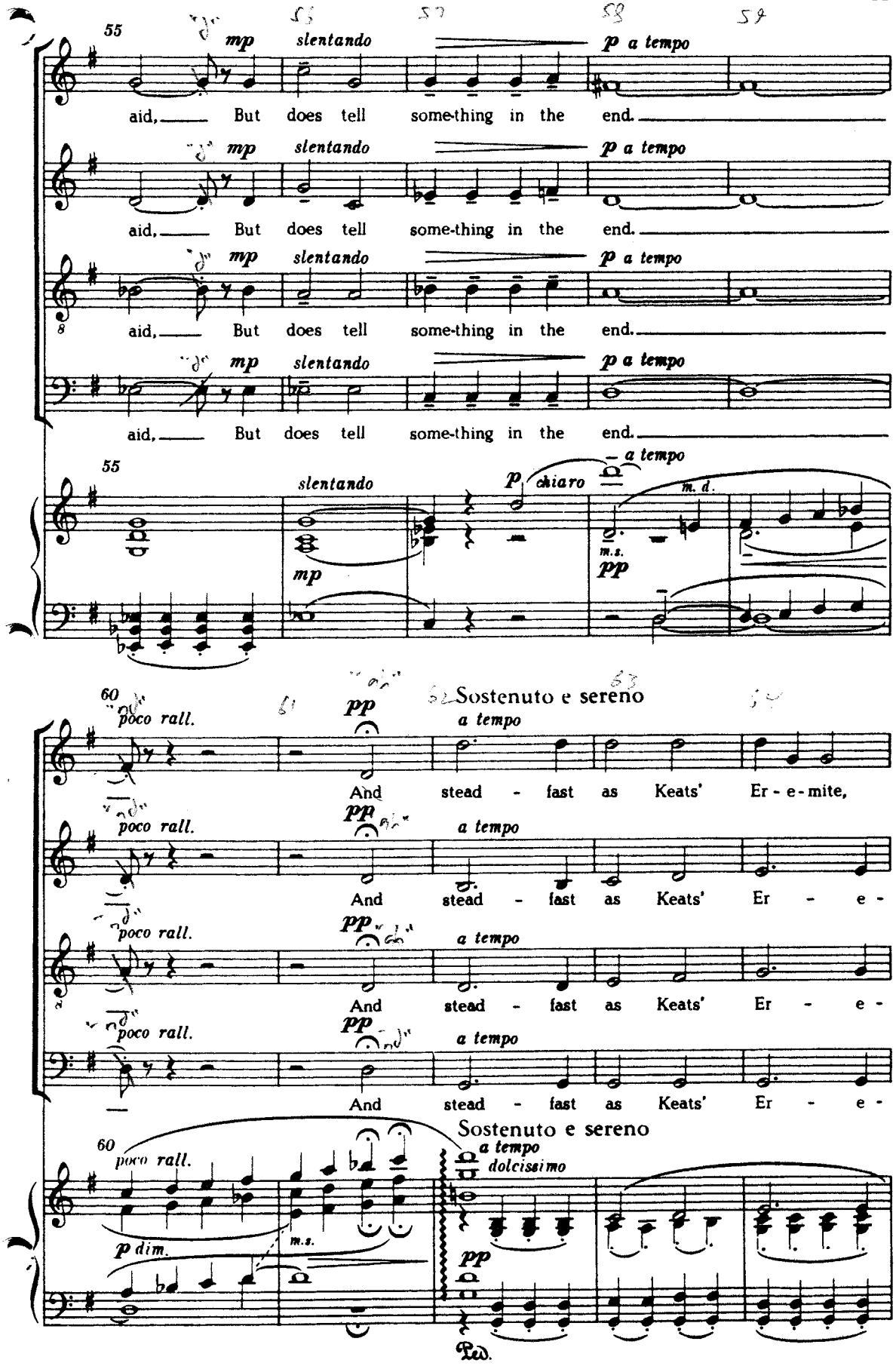
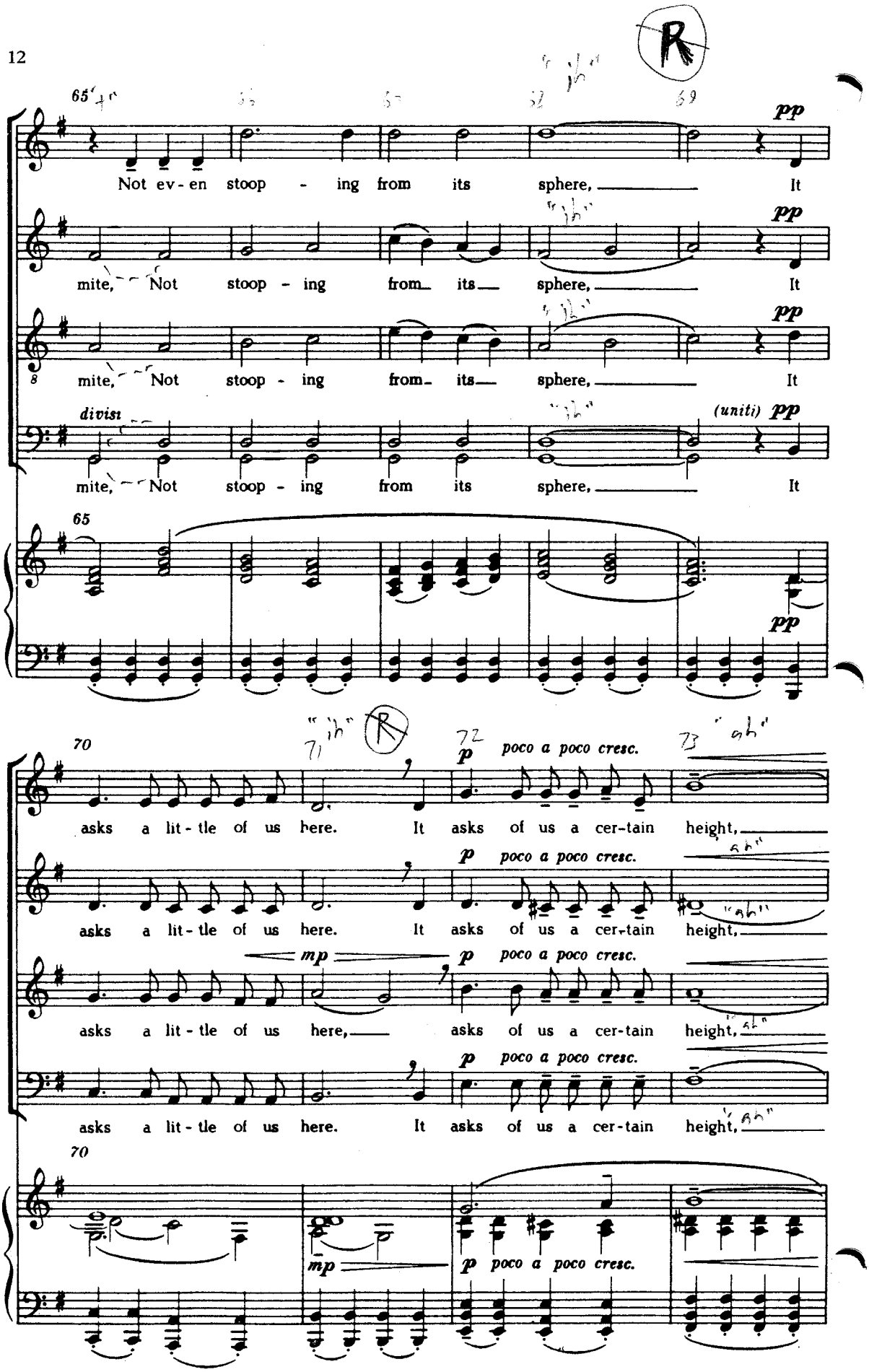
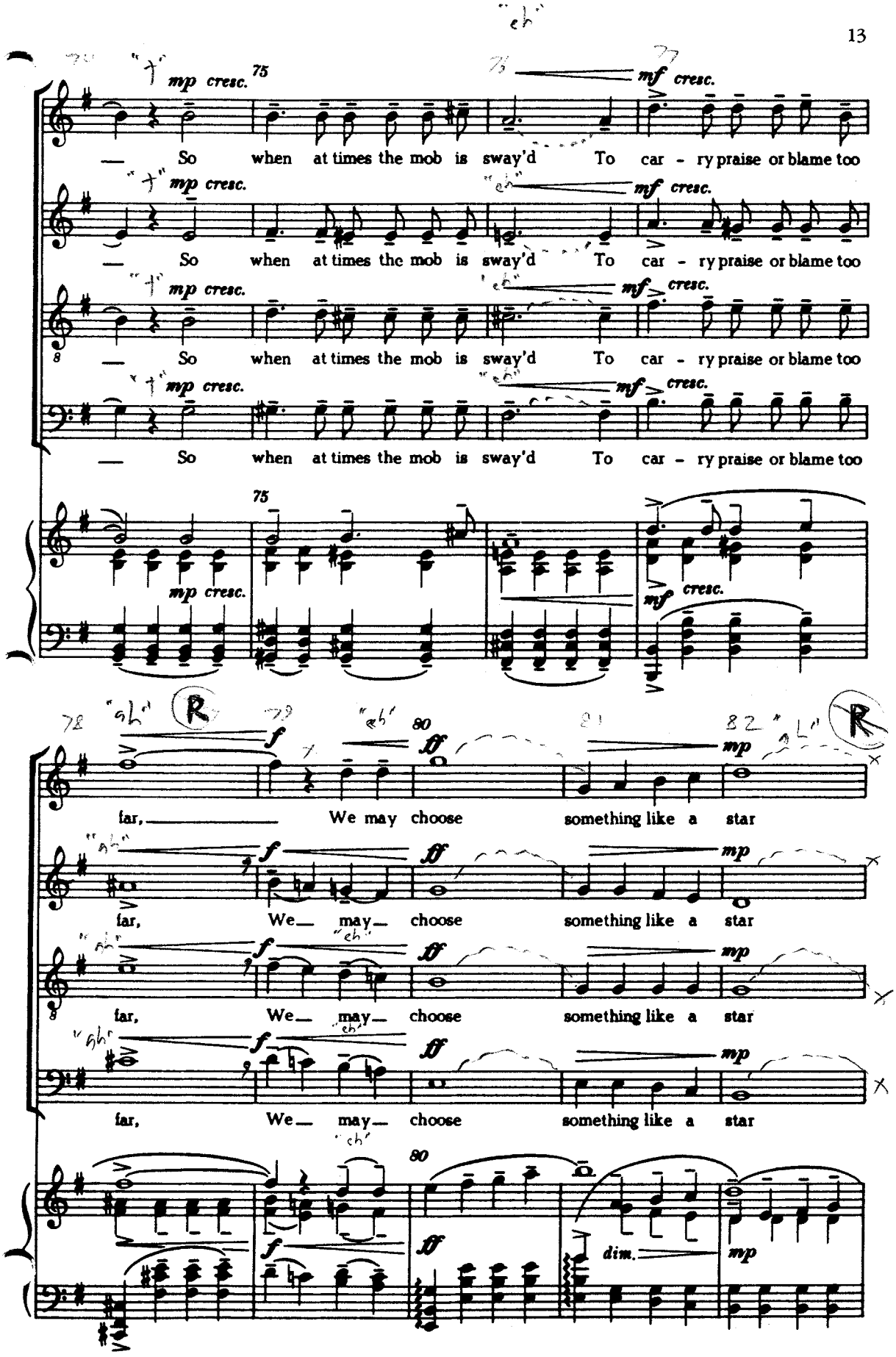
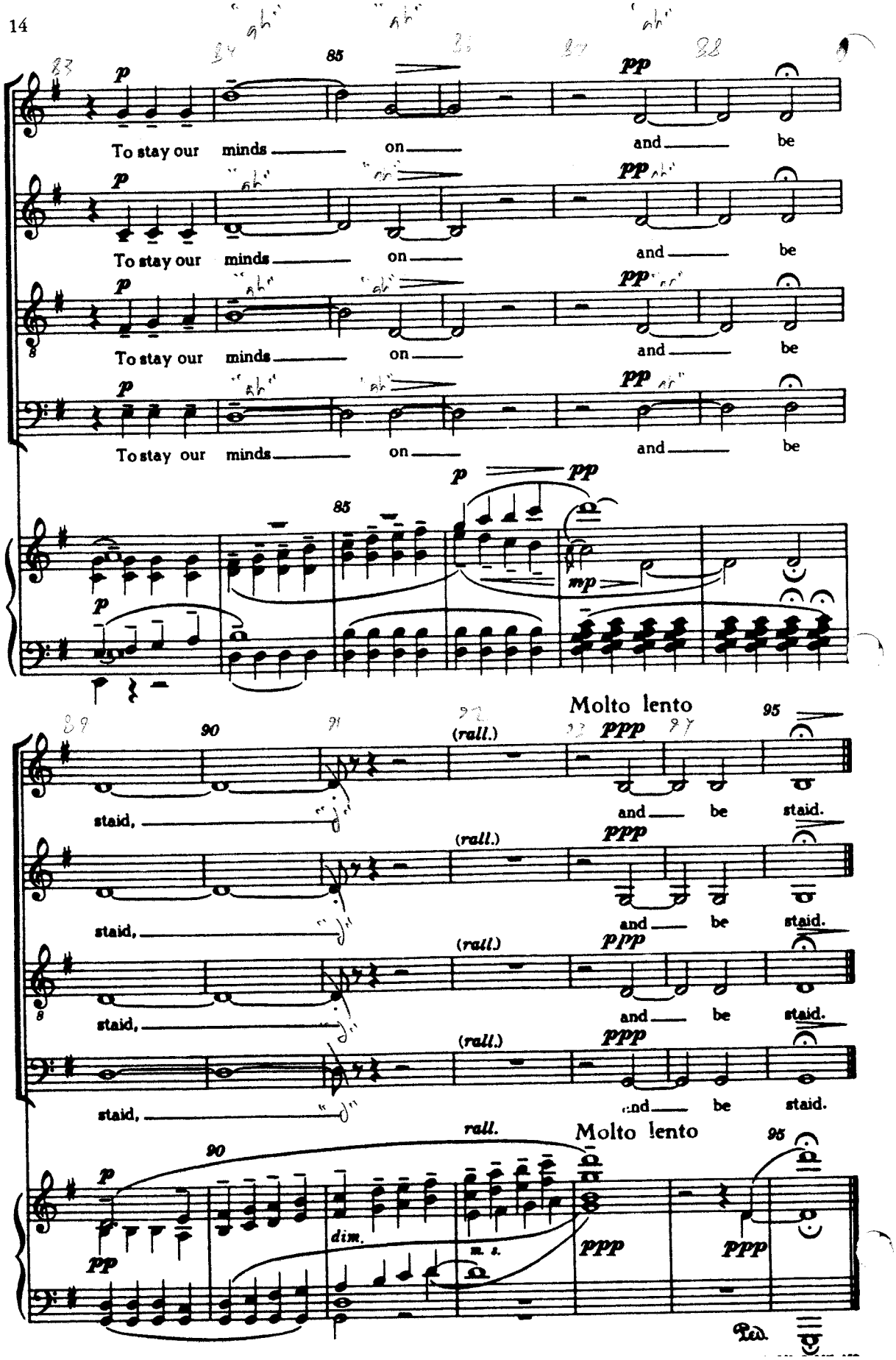

10
pp
O Star,
loft - i - ness the right To some ob - scur - i - ty of
loft - i - ness the right To some ob - scur - i - ty of
loft - i - ness the right To some ob - scur - i - ty of
10
pp

15
pp
O Star,
O
cloud — It will not do to say of night,
cloud — It will not do to say of night,
cloud — It will not do to say of night,
15
pp
pp

20
Star.
p
dim.
Since dark is what brings out your
Since dark is what brings out your
Since dark is what brings out your
m. d.
25
pp
O Star.
Some mys - ter - y be-comes the
light.
divisi
uniti


30
proud. But to be whol - ly tac - i - turn in your re - serve is not al -
proud. But to be whol - ly tac - i - turn in your re-serve is not al -
proud. But to be whol - ly tac - i - turn in your re-serve is not al -
proud. But to be whol - ly tac - i - turn in your re - serve is not al -
30
35
mf
low'd. Say something to us we can learn By heart
low'd. Say something to us we can learn By heart
low'd. Say something to us we can learn By heart
low'd. Say something to us we can learn By heart
35
mf

40
p
f subito
and when a - lone re - peat. Say something! And it says, 'I
40
p
f subito
cresc.
45
ff
burn.' But say with what de-gree of heat. Talk
cresc.
ff
sotto
45
sfz cresc.
sffz
sfffz
(ff)
ff

Fahr-en-heit,— talk Cen-ti-grade.— Use lan-guage we can com-pre-
Fahr-en-heit,— talk Cen-ti-grade.— Use lan-guage we can com-pre-
Fahr-en-heit,— talk Cen-ti-grade.— Use lan-guage we can com-pre-
Fahr-en-heit,— talk Cen-ti-grade.— Use lan-guage we can com-pre-
sopra
sotto
hend.— Tell us what el-e-ments you blend. It gives us strange-ly lit-tle
hend.— Tell us what el-e-ments you blend. It gives us strange-ly lit-tle
hend.— Tell us what el-e-ments you blend. It gives us strange-ly lit-tle
hend.— Tell us what el-e-ments you blend. It gives us strange-ly lit-tle

55
mp slentando p a tempo
aid, But does tell some-thing in the end.
mp slentando p a tempo
aid, But does tell some-thing in the end.
mp slentando p a tempo
aid, But does tell some-thing in the end.
mp slentando p a tempo
aid, But does tell some-thing in the end.
55
slentando
mp
p chiaro
a tempo
m. d.
m. s.
pp
60
poco rall.
pp
a tempo
Sostenuto e sereno
And stead - fast as Keats' Er - e - mite,
And stead - fast as Keats' Er - e -
And stead - fast as Keats' Er - e -
And stead - fast as Keats' Er - e -
60
poco rall.
Sostenuto e sereno
a tempo
dolcissimo
p dim.
m. s.
pp
Ped.


65
Not ev - en stoop - ing from its sphere, It
mite, Not stoop - ing from its sphere, It
mite, Not stoop - ing from its sphere, It
divisi
mite, Not stoop - ing from its sphere, It
(uniti)
pp
70
asks a lit - tle of us here. It asks of us a cer-tain height,
asks a lit - tle of us here. It asks of us a cer-tain height,
asks a lit - tle of us here, asks of us a cer-tain height,
asks a lit - tle of us here. It asks of us a cer-tain height,
mp
p poco a poco cresc.

mp cresc.
mf cresc.
75
So when at times the mob is sway'd To car - ry praise or blame too
f
ff
mp
80
far, We may choose something like a star
dim.

To stay our minds on and be
To stay our minds on and be
To stay our minds on and be
To stay our minds on and be
Molto lento
staid,
and be staid.
rall.
dim.
m. s.
Ped.